

THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC RECREATION COMMISSION

May 15, 2007

The regular meeting of the Public Recreation Commission was held on May 15, 2007 at 4:00pm at the Westwood Town Hall, 3017 Harrison Avenue (11), with the following members present: Mmes. Driehaus, Ingram and Brewer and Messrs. Fultz, Moeddel, and Smith, with Ms. Driehaus presiding. Staff in attendance: Mmes. Barnes, Simmons, Lang, Trapp, Cox, and Kerr and Messrs. Thomas, Bigham, Koopman, Williams, LeConey, Carlisle, and Pack.

MINUTES

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2007 meeting as submitted.

Motion passed.

Rev. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Moeddel, to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2007 meeting as submitted.

Motion passed.

Rev. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Moeddel, to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2007 meeting as submitted.

Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter Received from Hirsch Participant, Markita

The Recreation Commission received a letter from “Markita” thanking them for the wonderful day care service at Hirsch. This item was received for filing.

Email Received from Matthew Hagen

Mr. Hagen sent an email commending Larry Kalker for his help improving the Heitzler Baseball field. This item was received for filing.

Commendation Memo

Rick McCollum sent a commendation to Benjamin, Cornelius, and Whitehead

thanking them for the wonderful job they did during the recent fight off event at Mt. Auburn. This item was received for filing.

Article in the *Enquirer*, Thursday, May 3, 2007

There was an article in the *Enquirer* regarding the Senior Olympics bowling competition. This item was received for filing.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Program Highlight - West Region, Westwood Town Hall and Millvale

Steve LeConey, Supervising Recreation Coordinator for the West Region, introduced Marlene Trapp, Service Area Coordinator at Westwood Town Hall. Ms. Trapp advised Commission that Westwood Town Hall has a sewing class for youth 6 to 8 years old and a class for youth 8 and 9. Cheryl Connor is the sewing instructor at Westwood Town Hall and Millvale. Ms. Connor presented some of the children and their sewing projects. Ms. Trapp advised that the Westwood Town Hall youth basketball team won two trophies this year. Two of the team members brought their trophies forward for Commission to see. This is a remarkable accomplishment especially since Westwood Town Hall does not have their own gym to use for practice. Commissioners were very impressed with the accomplishments of the children and thanked them for sharing.

Mr. LeConey introduced Kelly Kerr, Service Area Coordinator at the Millvale Recreation Center. Ms. Kerr has been at the Millvale Center for about 10 years. She gave Commission a brief overview of activities at Millvale. The teens have done fundraisers to earn money for trips. There are between 50 and 100 teens in the center at any given time. Some teens help with tutoring and others help with the boxing program. Millvale runs two shuttles a day to surrounding communities to bring participants to the center. Ms. Kerr showed a video of participants at the Millvale center involved in different activities.

Information and Briefing Items

Mike Thomas advised that the Mayor has approved almost \$200,000.00 for youth programs. This money will help to fund the Green Team, REC Employment Corp and the Junior Counselor position. This will go before Council tomorrow for a vote of approval. Youth Commissioner, Tinisha Brewer, was present during the press conference

regarding this funding and did a great job of promoting the programs and answering questions.

Youth Commission Member Report

The Youth Commission Member Report was presented and received for filing.

NEW BUSINESS

Field Trips

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the field trips for various CRC centers and programs as submitted.

Motion passed.

Class/Facility Rental Agreement with Rafael Mendez

The Contractor shall have use of the Sawyer Point Tennis Pavilion and eight (8) tennis courts for the purpose of vending merchandise and providing tennis programs including adult tennis programs, youth tennis programs, and personal training programs. Chris Bigham advised that the Contractor will pay Cincinnati Recreation Commission 15% of total gross sales, including, but not limited to, tennis enrollment fees, program fees, and personal training fees. He advised that the long term goal is to get our percentage rate received up to 25%. Staff believe that the courts are underutilized and hope that the contractor will bring more participation.

After much discussion, Mr. Moeddel moved, by seconded Ms. Driehaus, to approve the Class/Facility Rental Agreement with Rafael Mendez. Rev. Smith voted against this motion, Mr. Fultz abstained.

Motion passed.

Sale of Jay Street Property

Michael Cervay, Director of Community Planning and Development was present to present the Preliminary Site Development Plan for the property between Burnet and Harvey Avenues, Rockdale and Erkenbrecker Avenues, and portions of Maple Avenue, Jay Street and Hickory Street.

Ms. Driehaus questioned if approval of this plan has been received from the Community Council. Mr. Cervay assured that Community Council approval has been received. Rev. Smith stated that he would like to have verification in writing that the

Community Council approves this site development plan. Verification of Community Council approval will be supplied to Mr. Thomas at the Recreation Commission office tomorrow.

Rev. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Ingram, to approve the sale of the Jay Street Property contingent upon verification of the Community Council approval. Mr. Moeddel and Mr. Fultz abstained.

Motion passed.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ms. Driehaus advised that Norman Merrifield of El Paso, Texas has accepted the position of Director of the Cincinnati Recreation Commission effective July 1, 2007. Mike Thomas has agreed to continue as Interim Director until that time. Ms. Driehaus thanked Mr. Thomas for his time and dedication.

COMMISSION MEETING

The next meeting of the Public Recreation Commission will be held on Tuesday, June 19, 2007 at 4:00pm at the Lindner Tennis Building, 4750 Playfield Lane (26).

Meeting Adjourned.

Denise M. Driehaus

Michael A. Thomas